(c) To generate additional power in Gujarat, it is envisaged to add 620 MW capacity during the 8th Plan period. In addition, the State will also get its due share from the central generating stations which are being set up in the western region. Various other measures taken to improve the power generation in the State of Gujarat include maximising generation from the existing stations, implementation of renovation and modernisation programme, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, effective load management and conservation of energy etc. Assistance is also made available to Gujarat from the neighbouring States whenever conditions are conducive to such transfer.

Setting up of gas based power plants to meet power shortage in Bihar

999. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of electricity in Bihar which is hampering its economic growth;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up gas based power plants in the State to end the shortage of power therein; and

(c) if not, what action Government propose to take to meet the power shortage in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c) A capacity addition of 976.9 MW is envisaged in the State of Bihar during the Eighth Plan. In addition, the State will also get its share in the Central projects being set up in the Eastern Sector. Other measures for mitigating the power shortage in the State include promotion of private sector investment in the Power Sector, Inter-State and Inter-Regional exchange of power; Renovation & Modernisation of its plants ;supply of adequate quantity of coal and quailty of coal; strengthening of transmission and distribution system for reducing losses and improving reliablity and energy conservation measures. There is, however, no proposal to set up gas based power plants in Bihar.

Power-Generation by Farakka Super Thermal Power Projects

1000. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAI RAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Statesman of June 28, 1993 captioned "Farakka faces problems of plenty"; and

(a) whether Governments attention has ermal Power Project suffers from excessive power generation and a glut of power in the absence of adequate transmission system and what steps are contemplated to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Farakka Super Thermal Power Station generated 140.9 million units at a Plant Load Factor of 70 per cent in the period April-June 1993 and it backed down to the extent of 46 millions units during the same period due to lack of demand in the grid which was caused partly by non-availability/inadequacy of transmission links. The Central Electricity Authority and the Power Grid Corpoation of India Limited have been advised to take action to strengthen the